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Rep. Loudenbeck Statement on Assembly Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 615

Madison- Representative Amy Loudenbeck (R-Clinton) issued the following statement on <u>Assembly Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 615</u>:

"I am pleased to report an amendment to protect both public schools and taxpayers has been introduced for Senate Bill 615/Assembly Bill 751 that is on the Assembly calendar for today's legislative session. I am a co-author of this amendment, and was actively involved in achieving this compromise proposal.

"It is important to recognize that the state aid payment for a choice pupil (\$7,210-\$7,856)¹ is less than the statewide average for a public school pupil (\$12,717)². The revenue limit treatment of choice pupils under current law allowed districts to levy taxpayers for an amount greater than the reduction in aid attributable to incoming choice pupils. Assembly Amendment 1 to SB 615 provides for a revenue limit adjustment equal to the reduction in aid, which is a fair and reasonable solution for schools and taxpayers."

Under current law, school districts are permitted to count pupils who reside in the district and who begin participating in the statewide choice (incoming pupils), for general aids on a prior year basis, and receive a revenue limit adjustment for each pupil equal to their base revenue per pupil for the current year. Each district's equalization aid is reduced by an amount equal to the amount paid by the state to statewide choice programs attributable to incoming pupils residing in that district in each year.

The amendment modifies the current revenue limit adjustments so that, beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, each school district would receive a revenue limit adjustment equal to the reduction in aid attributable to incoming choice pupils in the district each year.

According to the non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau, the anticipated change to levy limit authority for affected school districts in the 31st Assembly District under the scenario provided under the amendment is as follows: School District of Beloit (- \$60,127); School District of Beloit-Turner (- \$19,050); and School District of Janesville (- \$14,463).

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¹ http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sms/Choice/WPCP%20FAQ%202015-16.pdf

² http://legis.wisconsin.gov/eupdates/asm31/schoolfunding.pdf